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Inventory For
Manuscript Collection
MS-328

Hodgkins Family Papers

Inclusive dates: 1853-1956
Bulk Dates: 1853-1889

by
Peter B. Dublin
(edited by Anastasia S. Weigle)
November 2012

Shelf feet: 0.25
Number of boxes: 1

Accession No. 2003.69.5, 2004.41.1, 2004.41.2

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Abstract

Hodgkins Family

Papers**,** 1853-1956, (Bulk dates: 1853-1889)

1 manuscript box (0.25 shelf feet)

Maritime family of Lamoine (ME) involved in the fishing and shipping business.

The collection consists of two manuscript documents pertaining to the *Inez N. Carver* (Four-mast schooner) commanded by Fred L. Hodgkins and two account books belonging to Gilman B. Hodgkins who was involved in the Grand Banks fishing business, together his father, Nathan Hodgkins, and two brothers, Francis D. and David Dyer.

Gift of James K. Tweedie, Sr. and Villa H. Tweedie

MS-328 Accession No. 2003.69.5, 2004.41.1, 2004.41.2

Finding aid available in repository, folder and item-level control.

Added entries—persons:

Hodgkins, David Dyer
Hodgkins, Francis D.
Hodgkins, Fred L., *Captain*
Hodgkins, Gilman B., *Captain*
Hodgkins, Nathan

Added entries—corporate bodies (including vessels):

A. G. Brooks (Schooner)
Charles A. Ropes (Schooner)
Eldorado (Schooner)
H. S. Boynton (Schooner)
Inez N. Carver (Four-mast schooner)
Italian (Schooner)
Joseph (Schooner)
Lone Star (Schooner)
Matilda (Schooner)
Nellie Woodbury (Schooner)

Added entries—places:

Lamoine (ME)
Trenton (ME)
Grand Banks of Newfoundland
Buenos Aires (SA)
Rosario (SA)
Boston (MA)
West Indies

Added entries—key terms:

Account books
Accounts
Cod fisheries
Fish trade
Fishermen
Fishing [Commercial]

Fishing boats
Fishing Industry
Fishing ports
Master builders
Merchant Seamen
Salted fish
Schooners
Shipbuilding—Lamoine (ME)
Shipbuilding—Tremont (ME)

Acquisition

The Hodgkins Family Papers came in two separate acquisitions. The manuscript documents written by Alice M. Hodgkins were donated on November 5, 2003 by James K. Tweedie, Sr. & Villa H. Tweedie, accession no. 2003.69.5. The two account books were donated on June 28, 2004 by Mr. and Mrs. Tweedie, accession nos. 2004.41.1 and 2004.41.2.

Provenance

Villa H. Tweedie is the great-granddaughter of the bookkeeper for the Gilman B. Hodgkins fishing business. James K. Tweedie, Sr. is the nephew of Alice M. Coggins. She was the wife of Capt. Fred L. Hodgkins, master of the *Inez N. Carver* (Four-mast schooner), and son of Gilman B. Hodgkins.

Restrictions

There are no restrictions on the use of these materials for study or research.

Physical Condition

Other than a few stains, the two manuscript documents are in good condition. The condition of the account or fish books varies. The smaller account book identified as *Matilda* Fish Book, is in half-bound leather with spine deterioration and worn marbled covers and edges. There is a substantial amount of surface dirt, foxing and ink smudges which affects legibility. However, the pages are all intact.

The larger account book identified as *Lone Star* Fish Book, is in quarter-bound leather showing deterioration of the spine with worn corners and edges. The marbled cover boards are in fairly good condition. The pages are numbered with many of them blank. Pages 161 through 170 have been torn out. The pages are in good condition with minimal foxing with tight signatures.

Historical Note

Gilman B. Hodgkins, together with his father, Nathan, and brothers Francis D. and David Dyer (known usually as Dyer), were involved in the Grand Banks fishing business in Lamoine, Maine. *"Lamoine was among the last Maine ports to engage in the traditional salt-cod banks fishery."* [1] The Grand Banks are located off the southern coast of Newfoundland where the Labrador Current and the Gulf Stream meet. Capt. Gilman B. Hodgkins was both a sea captain and ship owner. His father and brothers owned shares of fishing vessels and went to sea. Their vessels may have fishedd on other banks as well.

It is reasonable to assume that Nathan, Gilman, Francis, and Dyer were owners or part owners of the schooners recorded in the two fish books. Alice Hodgkins' two page document suggests that Fred Hodgkins had at least a part ownership in the four-mast schooner *Inez N. Carver*. There is no indication in the collection of the relationship between members of the Hodgkins family and the [schooner?] *Zamel*.

Biographical Note

Captain Gilman B. Hodgkins, son of Nathan Hodgkins (1797-1881) and Harriet Googins (1803-1886), was born in Lamoine, Maine on April 13, 1826. His father was involved in fishing business and owned several Grand Banks fishing vessels.[3] Gilman B. had two brothers—Francis and David, both fishermen—and a sister Matilda.[3] All three brothers were involved in their father's Grand Banks fishing business. Capt. Hodgkins owned and operated numerous vessels and was master of the *Eldorado* (Schooner) between 1881 and 1885.

Captain Gilman B. Hodgkins married Sarah Gilpatrick (1824-1894) on March 18, 1852 and they had five children: Celia Persis, Edward F., Alice M., Fred L. (who later became Captain of the *Inez N. Carter* (Four-mast schooner), and Elgin P. Capt Gilman B. Hodgkins died on April 6, 1913.

His brother, Francis D. Hodgkins (1825-1901) was said to be involved in shipbuilding under F. D. Hodgkins & Co. although it is unknown what vessels he built. During the first half of the 1800s, Lamoine and Trenton were major shipbuilding areas building primarily two-mast schooners used for fishing and hauling freight along the coast. Most of the larger shipyards and fishing wharves were located along the Jordan River.[4] Business records indicate that Francis D. was a retail fish dealer, operating initially in Trenton and later in Lamoine. He is also listed in the Maine Business Directory as both a retail fish dealer and as a fish curer.

His brother David Dyer (1831-1920) was a skillful shipbuilder and master carpenter and involved in his family's Grand Bank fishing business. *"Trenton shipbuilders, including those at Lamoine, built at least 52 schooners and six brigs between 1815 and 1871. Warren King, David Hodgkins, Isaac Hodgkins, Herman Cousins and Ira Webb are a few of the men identified as shipbuilders."* [5]

Captain Fred L. Hodgkins (1862-1946), son of Capt. Gilman B. Hodgkins, was born Dec. 19, 1860 in Lamoine. He owned large vessels and sailed to foreign ports. He was master of the four-mast schooner *Inez N. Carver*. He married Alice M. Coggins (1870-1968) June 15, 1891 and she traveled with her husband on a number of voyages

between 1901 and 1911 aboard the four-mast schooner *Inez N. Carver*. He owned a small fishing station on the Jordan River at Lamoine around 1880.[1] In 1901-02, Capt. Fred L. Hodgkins was listed as a fish warden for Lamoine. [2] In his later years, he was town selectman, assessor and overseer of the poor in Lamone.[3]

References cited:

1. O'Leary (1996) Maine Sea Fisheries. Boston: Northeastern Univ. Press.
2. "Report of the Commissioner of Sea and Shore Fisheries of the State of Maine," 1901-02
3. Hodgkins, Ellen B. (1927). Hodgkins Family Genealogy.
4. "A Short History of Lamoine," http://www.lamoine-me.gov/History.htm
5. "Our Town Trenton,"
http://ellsworthamerican.com/ourtown/trenton/ot_trenton1_12-05-02.html

Scope and Content

The collection consists of two manuscript documents written by Alice M. Coggins Hodgkins, wife of Capt. Fred L. Hodgkins, master of the four-mast schooner *Inez N. Carver* in October 1956. The two-page document describes the first voyage of the *Inez N. Carver* in 1901, the year she was launched. The one-page document provides information about the *Inez N. Carver* such as the date it was launched, its dimensions, gross tonnage (700.91), net tonnage (625.75), and various voyages.

The two account or fish books span the period 1853 to1860 and from 1872 to 1889. Financial transactions relating to the activities of the various schooners were itemized. Many members of the crews of the vessels are identified in the records, although it is not always clear on which vessel a crewman served.

The account book for 1853-1860 is the smaller of the two. On the page facing the inside cover is the inscription "Schooner Matilda Fish Book, May, 1853." The entries, however, also relate to the schooners *Italian, A. G. Brooks, Joseph,* and *H. S. Boynton*. The pages are not numbered. Following the records pertaining to the *A. G. Brooks* (Schooner) is a page entitled "Family Register Trenton Maine" written in 1874. It lists Capt. Gilman B. Hodgkin's family names and birth dates:

Sarah H. Gillpatrick	*Born March 4, 1824*
Gilman B. Hodgkins	*Born April 13, 1826*
Celia Persis 〃	*Born Dec. 6, 1853*
Woodbury Dana 〃	*Born Dec. 25, 1855*
Edward Fletcher 〃	*Born Dec. 20, 1857*
Mary Allice 〃	*Born Dec. 6, 1859*
Fred Leslie 〃	*Born Dec. 19, 1862*
Elgin Parker 〃	*Born. July 4, 1867*

The second account book covers the period from 1872 to 1889, [1911]. On the page facing the inside cover is the inscription "Schr. *Lone Star*." In addition to the *Lone*

Star, the entries relate to the schooners *Nellie Woodbury*, *Eldorado,* and *Charles A. Ropes*. The pages of this book are numbered.

On pages 213, 215, 229, 231, 257, 259, 277 and 279 you will find entries for payment of crew for the *Inez N. Carver* (Four-mast schooner) and the *Zamiel* (Catboat). The entries were written in 1911 by Frederick Tweedie (b.1904-d.1940) who would have been 7 year old. The significance of the entries are not well understood.

Processing Notes

The collection required minimal processing given the nature and condition of the documents and images. However, the two handwritten documents were placed in individual Mylar sleeves. Two appendices were created listing crewman names found in the two fishing account books.

MS-328 Hodgkins Family Papers Container List

Box#	Folder#	
1	1	Fishing Account Book, 1853-60
	2	Fishing Account Book, 1872-89, [1911]
	3	Memoir, *Inez N. Carver* (Four-mast schooner), written by Alice M. (Coggins) Hodgkins 1956

APPENDIX A
CREW NAME • *MATILDA* (SCHOONER) FISHING ACCOUNT BOOK*

Name	Vessel	Year
Auskin, Lewis A.	*Matilda*	1853
Auskin, Luther W.	*Matilda*	1853
Ball, H.D.	*Italian*	1857
Blunt, George	*Italian*	1856
Bowden, Enoch	*H.S. Boynton*	1859
Brooks, George F.	*H.S. Boynton*	1859
Bunker, Berton	*Matilda*	1854
Bunker, James	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Chaney, Edmund	*Matilda*	1853
Clark, Captain [_____]	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Cooledge, John	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Cooledge, N.B.	*H.S. Boynton, A.G. Brooks*	1859, 1859
Cooledge, Silas	*Matilda, Italian, H.S. Boynton*	1853, 1856, 1859
Cooledge, Stedman	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Coombs, James	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Crabtree, John	*Italian*	1856
Emery, Simeon	*Matilda*	1853
Ford, Alfred	*Italian*	1856
Gilpatrick, Samuel	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Googins, Edward	*Matilda*	1854
Googins, Thomas	*Matilda*	1854
Gray, Stilman	*Matilda*	1854
Heath, R.A.	*Italian*	1857
Hodgkins, David Dyer	*Matilda, H.S. Boynton*	1854, 1859
Hodgkins, Agreen C.	*Italian*	1856, 1857
Hodgkins, Amos	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Hodgkins, Benjamin P.	*Italian*	1856
Hodgkins, Capt. G.B.	*Matilda, Italian*	1853, 1854, 1856, 1857
Hodgkins, Francis D.	*Matilda, Italian*	1854, 1856, 1857
Hodgkins, N.N. (Nathan?)	*Italian*	1857
Hodgkins, Nathan	*Matilda, Italian*	1854, 1856
Hodgkins, Nelson	*Italian*	1856
Hodgkins, W.R. (Walter?)	*Italian*	1857
Hodgkins, Walter	*Italian*	1856
Jordan, Hazen	*H.S. Boynton*	1859
Jordan, Isaac	*Matilda*	1853
Kelly, John	*Italian*	1857
McFarland, W.	*Matilda*	1853
Richards, George B.	*Matilda*	1854
Shields, Thomas	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Smith, James	*Matilda*	1853
Snow, Giles	*Italian*	1857
Springer, Samuel	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Watkins, F.M.	*Italian*	1857

Whitaker, Hazen	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Whitaker, James	*H.S. Boynton*	1859
Whitaker, John	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Whitlock, Charles	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Whitlock, James	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Whitlock, John	*H.S. Boynton, A.G. Brooks*	1859
Whitlock, Warren	*A.G. Brooks*	1859
Wormwell, John	*Matilda*	1854
Worster, G.W.	*Italian*	1857
Young, Oliver W.	*Matilda, Italian*	1853, 1856

*** No crew members were identified for the schooner *Joseph*.**

APPENDIX B—CREW NAMES FOUND IN *LONE STAR* (SCHOONER) FISHING ACCOUNT BOOK*

Name	Vessel	Year
Abbott, Joshua	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Auquhart, George	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Auquhart, Leonard	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Bloom, Leland	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Bridges, Isaac	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Bridges, Sydney	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Comeau, Gilbert	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Conary, A.J.	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Covey or Coney, James	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Crowell, George	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Crowell, William	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Cunningham, Crowell	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Dazell, James	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Dazell, Samuel	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Ellenwood, Sidney	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Farnham, Edward	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Flagg, George F.	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Gilley, Joseph	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Grindle, John	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Gross, Ira	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Hapnes, Macke	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Hopkins, George	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Hopkins, L.D.	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Mack, William	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Matthews, George	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Newell, Winslow	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Nickerson, Burton	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Nickerson, John	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Nickerson, William	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Rafuse, John	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888

Ross, Kinsman (Mate)	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Simrock, Albert	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Small, Alex	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Smith, Manford	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Sprague, Smith	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Stanley, John	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Stanley, Lewis	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Thomas, George W.	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Tracy, Juston	*Nellie Woodbury*	1888
Watt, Henry	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886
Zwicker, James	*Nellie Woodbury*	1886

Note: Accounting records relating to the *Lone Star, Charles A. Ropes,* and the *Eldorado*, do not list crewman names.